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SUBJECT: ANKARA MEDIA REACTION REPORT
MONDAY, JUNE 30, 2003

THIS REPORT WILL PRESENT A TURKISH PRESS SUMMARY UNDER THREE
THEMES:

HEADLINES
BRIEFING
EDITORIAL OPINION

HEADLINES

MASS APPEAL

Bremer thinks Saddam must be killed - Hurriyet
U.S. seeks to destabilize Iran - Milliyet
Iranians hunt for the PKK - Milliyet
Rice invites Abbas to Washington - Aksam
Turkey might open the door to Armenia - Milliyet 6/29
U.S., Greece agree on by-passing Denktas - Aksam
Larson: Turkey's economy still weak - Milliyet 6/29
Britons want Blair to step down - Sabah

OPINION MAKERS

U.S. wants Turkish troops for Iraq - Cumhuriyet
Powell urges patience for Iraqi stabilization - Radikal 6/29
Guerrilla warfare against U.S. troops in Iraq - Zaman 6/29
U.S. to handle other 'rogue states' - Sabah 6/28
Iranian parliamentarians protest student detentions -
Cumhuriyet
Iran discussing w/ Arabs extradition of Al-Qaida members -
Cumhuriyet 6/29
Jack Straw on 'warning visit' to Iran - Zaman
Israel disregards cease-fire by Palestinian groups - Radikal
Rice welcomes cease-fire by Palestinians - Yeni Safak
Bush, Blair losing popular support - Milliyet 6/28
Council of Europe: South Cyprus a haven for cheap labor,
prostitution -
Radikal 6/29
Turkish Cypriot opposition to unite against Denktas for
elections - Cumhuriyet 6/28

BRIEFING

New post for Ambassador Pearson: "Hurriyet" reports on
Monday that Secretary Powell will assign U.S. Ambassador to
Ankara, Robert Pearson, as Director General of Foreign
Service at the State Department. In this prestigious post,
Pearson will be responsible for the assignments of thousands
of American diplomats.

Ambassador Edelman 'warming up' for Ankara: The new U.S.
Ambassador to Turkey, Eric Edelman, attended a series of
briefings and meetings on Turkey at the Carnegie Endowment
and the Brookings Institute last week, "Zaman" reports from
Washington. The paper defines Edelman as a 'smart, amiable,
and humble person with powerful connections.' Zaman expects
Edelman to have a tough time in dealing with priority issues
for the U.S. government such as cooperation with Turkey in
the Middle East, Armenia, and the continuation of economic
and political reforms.

Iran, Turkey cooperate against KADEK: Iran has launched a
military operation against KADEK militants who purportedly
infiltrated Iran from Northern Iraq. The militants killed
eight Iranian soldiers in a raid against a police station
late last week. Turkish troops are supporting the Iranian
assault against KADEK, and KADEK officials have accused
Turkey and Iran of setting up an alliance against the Kurds.

Washington Post on Iraqi peacekeeping: Dailies cite a
Washington Post article claiming that the U.S. has asked for
'reinforcements' from Turkey, Pakistan, and India to help

break the resistance of Iraqi militant groups affiliated with Saddam Hussein. The Post expects delay in the arrival of reinforcements due to 'political and logistical obstacles.'

Ankara might open its border with Armenia: Papers report that a Turkish parliamentary delegation in Washington last week called on Ankara and Yerevan to take steps toward normalization of relations. The Turkish parliamentarians said that the opening of the Turkish-Armenian border and bilateral trade would help in warming ties with Armenia. After meeting with the Assembly of Armenian Americans (AAA) in Washington, Turkish MPs said they also favored opening the ruins of the ancient city of Ani, near Turkey's eastern border, to Armenian tourists.

Larson on Turkey's economy: Speaking at the Brookings Institution last week, Assistant Secretary of State Alan Larson said that despite significant progress seen in Turkey's economy after the 2001 crisis, there are still vital weak points in Turkey's economic management. Larson drew attention to Turkey's dangerously high public debt, which amounts to around 82 percent of the national income. Turkey's economy needs 'aggressive' structural reforms, Larson said.

U.S., Greece attempt to 'by-pass' Denktas: "Aksam" claimed on Monday that Greek Prime Minister Simitis has asked U.S. help in by-passing Turkish Cypriot leader Denktas. The EU and the U.S. reportedly agreed at their recent summit to unite the Turkish Cypriot opposition against Denktas in upcoming elections this December. The Turkish Cypriot opposition had earlier vowed to sack Denktas as negotiator in the peace talks if it comes to power.

EDITORIAL OPINION: Iraq

"Turkish soldiers in Iraq?"
Feraî Tinc noted in mass appeal Hurriyet (6/30): "The US miscalculated the aftermath of the war, and it seems things are becoming messier in Iraq. The number of Iraqis opposing the occupation is growing every day. There is even discontent among the Kurds, supposedly America's best ally in Iraq. According to the reports, the Pentagon has now started thinking about Turkey, and a Washington Post story tells us that the U.S. has requested Turkish troops. . If the story is true, Turkey should think about sending its troops to help for the establishment of a democratic Iraqi state and a stable and secure Iraq. But if the US is seeking Turkish troops for helping to reinforce the current occupation, we should not be part of it. There is only one way for the US to get rid of the 'occupation force' label: by activating the UN to take on a more active role."

"The US and Turkey"
Murat Yetkin wrote from Washington in liberal-intellectual Radikal (6/29): "After having a series of talks with Washington officials, my observation is that US prestige has been shaken, especially in Europe, by Turkey's failure to pass the motion that would have allowed American troops to move through Turkey. One still can feel sense the traces of disappointment with Turkey in Washington. However, it is the US, not Turkey, that benefited from the decline of the motion, in both political and military terms. The US saved billions of dollars, prevented the entry of Turkish troops into Northern Iraq, and brought Turkey to a policy more in line with what Washington had wanted."

PEARSON